

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.111

U.S. Application No. 10/088,232

Q68710

REMARKS

Upon entry of the Amendment, Claim 16 is pending in the application. Claims 1-15 and 17-28 are canceled. Claim 16 is amended to be rewritten in independent form.

Entry of the amendment along with allowance of Claim 16, previously indicated as objected to but allowable subject matter, is respectfully requested.

Objected to but Allowable Subject Matter

Applicants kindly thank the Examiner for stating that Claim 16 is objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim (Claim 4), but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Applicants respond by rewriting Claim 16 in independent form by incorporating the subject matter of Claim 4, now canceled.

Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request allowance of Claim 16.

Claim Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 112

Claims 1, 3 and 5-10 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112 for assertedly failing to particularly point out the invention. The Examiner alleges that the moiety represented by Q is infinite in scope.

Applicants respond by canceling at least Claims 1, 3 and 5-10, thereby making the rejection of these claims moot.

Claim Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 102/§103

A. Claims 1 and 3 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as assertedly being anticipated by Ficken et al.

B. Claims 1 and 2 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as assertedly being anticipated by Mikhailenko et al.

C. Claims 1-6, 8-10, 14, 15 and 17-28 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as assertedly being anticipated by Usagawa et al (U.S. Patent 5,057,406).

D. Claims 1-6, 8-11, 14, 15 and 17-28 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Usagawa et al.

In response, Applicants respond by canceling Claims 1-15 and 17-28, thereby making the rejection of these claims moot.

Conclusion

In view of the above, reconsideration and allowance of this application are now believed to be in order, and such actions are hereby solicited. If any points remain in issue which the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

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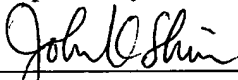
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CUSTOMER NUMBER

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Respectfully submitted,



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